Yucca Lake Historic District, Area 6, Nevada Test Site, Nye County, Nevada

by

Robert C. Jones, Colleen M. Beck, and Barbara A. Holz Division of Earth and Ecosystem Sciences

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ABSTRACT

The National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Site Office tasked the Desert Research Institute(DRI) with recording the historic structures on Yucca Lake in Area 6 of the NTS, developing a historic context for the Yucca Lake Historic District, and providing eligibility requirements for the National Register of Historic Places. Yucca Lake was used in association with atmospheric nuclear tests although no atmospheric or subsurface nuclear tests were conducted on the lake bed itself. Its association included the use of the Yucca Lake Airstrip for aircraft activities and delivery of equipment and personnel, testing of aerial dropped non-explosive prototype weapons, high explosive testing, and other tests of which little is known. The survey did not include the southern third of the lake bed. In the northern portion of the lake bed, DRI recorded 22 structures and 8 miscellaneous artifacts/features of which 15 of the structures are considered as contributing to the Yucca Lake Historic District. DRI recommends that these structures be protected and preserved and that the remainder of Yucca Lake be surveyed for additional historic properties.